



Montana Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, Superintendent

MontCAS Montana Comprehensive Assessment System May 2009 Newsletter

Reporting Dates for the Spring 2009 CRT and CRT-Alternate

June 2, 2009 (by 5pm Montana time)	CRT Reading, Math, and Science Summary Reports and Interactive Data posted on MARS.
June 8, 2009 (by 5pm Montana time)	CRT-Alternate Reading, Math, and Science Summary Reports and Interactive Data posted on MARS.
September 2009	CRT and CRT-Alternate Report Interpretation Guides, Parent Letters, and Cumulative Folder Labels shipped to system test coordinators.



The MARS User Manual and the reports will be posted on the secure Measured Progress iServices site: <http://iServices.MeasuredProgress.org>

- Select "**Montana**" or "**Montana ALT**" (either works for both CRT and CRT-ALT) from the dropdown menu and click "Enter."
- For the *User Manual*, select "Forms and Manuals"
 - Select *MARS User Manual* (pdf)
- For MARS
 - Select MARS
 - Enter your User Name and Password. These were assigned to systems and schools in June of 2008.
 - If you need assistance, please contact Gayle Allen at OPI: gallen2@mt.gov or 406-444-3511
 - OPI will present two refresher courses on using MARS online. Please see the *MontCAS Presents* schedule on the next two pages for details.
 - The form to request additional MARS training is online. You may request online as well as on site training.
<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PUB/PDF/Assessment/Forms/TrainRqst.pdf>



The Office of Public Instruction is pleased to present online professional development courses, workshops, and events. The courses and events will be presented through Connect Pro and require each participant's computer to have speakers and *Adobe Flash Player*, software that is

preinstalled on 98% of computers today.

Participants will be able to type questions in a confidential Question and Answer (Q&A) Pod and the presenter(s) will be able answer the questions during the session.

Presentations will be posted to the OPI Assessment *MontCAS Presents* web page a few days after the live performance.

If you have never attended a Connect Pro meeting before, it is suggested that you test your connection and get a quick overview ahead of time.

Test your connection: http://connect.opi.mt.gov/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm

Quick overview: http://www.adobe.com/go/connectpro_overview

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MontCAS Presents: Schedule and Information

Date and Time	Presentation Information
Thursday, May 21 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Introduction to <i>MontCAS Presents</i> : This session will provide information on scheduled courses, workshops, and events. To join the meeting: http://connect.opi.mt.gov/montcasinfo/
Wednesday, May 27 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Repeat of Introduction to <i>MontCAS Presents</i> To join the meeting: http://connect.opi.mt.gov/montcasinfo2/
Thursday, May 28 3:30 – 4:30 pm	MARS: If you are new to the Montana Analysis and Reporting System (MARS) or need a refresher, this presentation is for you. To join the meeting: http://connect.opi.mt.gov/mars1/
Thursday, June 4 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Repeat of MARS To join the meeting: http://connect.opi.mt.gov/mars2/
Thursday, June 18 3:30 – 4:30 pm	<i>Transformative Assessment</i> book discussion. OPI provided one copy of this Jim Popham book to every system test coordinator. Please check with your test coordinator to borrow the book. More information will be posted at a later date on the <i>MontCAS Presents</i> website.
Wednesday, August 19 and every other Thursday for a semester length course ending December 3. Tentative time: 3:30 – 5:00 pm	Formative Assessment Semester Course, designed and presented by Margaret Heritage of UCLA CRESST. Speakers include W. Jim Popham and Ellen Osmundson of UCLA CRESST, Caroline Wylie and Richard Stiggins of ETS, and Montana educators. More information, including registration and connection details, will be posted at a later date on the <i>MontCAS Presents</i> website.
Fall 2009	Standards Based IEPS Details will be posted at a later date on the <i>MontCAS Presents</i>

	website.
September 2009	CRT-Alternate Eligibility and Registration Details will be posted at a later date on the <i>MontCAS Presents</i> website.
September 2009	English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment Administration Training Details will be posted at a later date on the <i>MontCAS Presents</i> website.



Please check the *MontCAS Presents* website for up-to-date information.
www.opi.mt.gov/assessment/mcpresents.html

We look forward to your participation in these events.

If you need assistance or have questions, please contact the OPI assessment staff.

Contact information is on the last page of this issue of *JUMP*. Thank you.

2009-2010 MontCAS Testing Windows

October 19 - November 20, 2009	English Language Proficiency (ELP), Grades K-12
February 19 - March 24, 2010	CRT-Alternate, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science.
March 1 - March 24, 2010	CRT, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science

2009-2010 English Language Proficiency Materials/Training Schedule

Date	Test Coordinator Checklist
June 1, 2009	OPI sends Questar the number of LEP students in each grade based on enrollment reported in AIM. This number will help Questar determine how many test booklets to print.
July 14, 2009	OPI sends Questar the list of districts with LEP students reported in AIM. Any district with LEP students in AIM will receive ELP materials.
July 31, 2009	Questar emails System Test Coordinators information about ordering Level 1 (beginner forms), Braille, and Large Print (LP) test forms through a secure online system.
August 3 - 21, 2009	Level 1 (beginner), Braille, and Large Print (LP) forms must be requested by August 21. Systems order them through the secure online system.
September 4, 2009	OPI sends Questar the number of LEP students in each grade based on what is reported in AIM. This number will help

	Questar determine how many test booklets to send to each system.
September 14 - October 16, 2009	System Test Coordinators provide training for test administrators.
October 5, 2009	Questar ships testing materials to System Test Coordinators.
October 19-November 20, 2009	English Language Proficiency (ELP) Testing Window
October 30, 2009	OPI sends Questar the list of students identified as LEP in AIM, so that Questar can print barcode labels for the students. AIM must be updated no later than October 29, 2009 in order to receive barcode labels for students.
November 9, 2009	Questar mails barcode labels to systems (2 nd day delivery).
December 4, 2009	Deadline for systems to ship testing materials to Questar.
February 2010	Questar ships reports to System Test Coordinators

OPI Assessment Contacts

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